



A Guide to Hazardous Household Products

Safer Alternatives
& Proper Disposal



St. Lucie County
Baling and Recycling Facility

www.co.st-lucie.fl.us

Many of us are more likely to associate hazardous materials with industrial products than with toilet bowl cleaner or paint used in our homes. Just because you bought something at the supermarket or hardware store doesn't mean it's safe for your family or the environment.

So... what makes a household product hazardous?



Flammable: Chemicals that ignite easily. Examples include thinner, nail polish and aerosol products, paint and paint products.



Corrosive: Chemicals that deteriorate the surface of other materials, including skin. Examples include bleach, drain cleaner, oven cleaner and pool chemicals.



Toxic: Chemicals that cause sickness or death. Examples include mothballs, engine cleaners and pesticides.



Reactive: Chemicals that produce toxic vapors or explode when coming in contact with other materials. Examples include lithium batteries and water, or a mixture of chlorine bleach and ammonia.

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Want to learn more? Check out the Resources section in this booklet or visit www.co.st-lucie.fl.us

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Introduction

haz•ard•ous: (a) depending on hazard or chance; (b) involving or exposing one to RISK (as of loss or HARM) *syn* see DANGEROUS.

Many of the products that we commonly use to clean and maintain our homes, cars and yards contain hazardous ingredients. Fortunately, many alternative products are now available to accomplish these tasks that reduce or eliminate hazardous chemicals. However, there may be times when you need to use a hazardous chemical to get the job done. This guide highlights important aspects of the process for purchasing, using and disposing of hazardous and alternative products, to help you achieve the best possible results and safeguard yourself and the community.

Products containing hazardous chemicals must be stored, handled and used with care and disposed of or recycled in special facilities. When using hazardous products, think ahead so that you're ready if something goes wrong.

- Each year nearly one million children under the age of five are exposed to potentially poisonous medicines and household chemicals. Cleaning substances are the most common cause of home poisonings.



- A single granule of a common insecticide that's often used to control ants (Diazinon) can kill a bird.

- The sweet smell of antifreeze attracts pets, especially dogs, which may lap it up and get sick or die.



**The average household contains
63 different hazardous chemicals.**

Common Hazards Associated With Household Products

Product	Hazard
Toxic products <i>Pesticides</i> <i>Solvent-based spot removers</i> <i>Mercury containing devices</i> <i>Wood preservatives</i> <i>Bathroom & kitchen cleaners</i> <i>Glass cleaners</i>	Toxic products can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poison people, pets, fish or birds• Cause cancer• Harm unborn children• Cause child growth problems• Cause child learning problems
Corrosive products <i>Drain cleaners</i> <i>Toilet bowl cleaners</i> <i>Oven cleaners</i> <i>Rust removers</i> <i>Swimming pool acid</i>	Corrosive products can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blind you in just a few seconds• Chemically burn your skin• Put holes in clothing and furniture
Flammable products <i>Aerosols</i> <i>Nail polish remover</i> <i>Paint thinner</i> <i>Charcoal lighter fluid</i> <i>Engine & brake cleaners</i> <i>Oil-based paint</i> <i>Roofing tar</i>	Flammable products can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start fires• Explode• Cause indoor air pollution• Cause smog
Toxic air pollutant products <i>General purpose cleaners</i> <i>Glass cleaners</i> <i>Hair spray</i>	Toxic air pollutant products: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put toxic chemicals in the air at home
Water pollutant products <i>Mercury</i> <i>Copper-based root killer</i> <i>Pesticides</i> <i>Photo chemicals</i>	Water pollutant products: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are linked to water pollution in our waters
Lead-containing products <i>Computer monitors</i> <i>Televisions</i> <i>Automobile batteries</i> <i>Computer back-up batteries</i>	Lead-containing products: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If broken, could release lead (a metal toxic to people and sea life) into your home and in our waters

Buying Safer Products

Purchasing safer alternatives to hazardous products—or using non-chemical methods that accomplish the same goal—are the best ways to make life safer for you and your family. An example, of a non-chemical alternative for clearing drains is a drain snake. Reducing use of hazardous products will also improve the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat.

Chemical Product Purchasing Tips (Follow these easy steps)

- 1) **Read the label:** A quick look at several products will help you find the safest product that will do the job. This section tells you exactly what to look for.
- 2) **Buy the safest alternative:** Buy the safest product that will do the job.
- 3) **Buy chemical products only when necessary:** When considering a chemical product, ask yourself—will something else you already have do the job?
- 4) **Buy only what you need:** Avoid “super” sizes and bundled products. The few cents you might save are not worth the risk of storing unused hazardous products.
- 5) **Skip aerosol sprays:** Aerosols cause air pollution, and pose disposal issues when empty. Choose solid or gel products, or pump sprays.

Concerned about a hazardous product? Ask your grocer or hardware store to stock safer products.

Each of us must take responsibility for the impacts caused by the products we buy.



Reading Product Labels

The label should tell you what the product is for, how to use it, the hazards you can be exposed to, and what to do if you have an accident.

The most important time to read the label is before you buy a product. Many injuries and unsafe exposures can be avoided by reading the label. You are in the store looking for chemicals because you have a job to do at home. Maybe you have a drain that is backed up, or just need some window cleaner. How do you decide which of the many products on the shelf is best for you? Start by reading the labels.



What is this product for? Does it do just one job, or can I use it for several tasks? Are there any restrictions, such as “avoid using product around plastic, metal, or fabric?”

How do I use it? Is the product ready-to-use, or do I mix it with water? How can I mix the product safely? How much will I need to do the job?

How hazardous is the product? Read the product label to determine what types of hazards you face and how to protect yourself. Can the product burn your skin? Can it catch on fire? Should you use it outside? Should you wear protective gloves, goggles, or other equipment to prevent being exposed? All chemical products pose some risk, so know what you are getting into.

What do I do if I have an accident? Does the label say what to do if the product contacts skin, or is inhaled or swallowed? Does the label give you enough information to prepare for and respond to these accidents?



Common household products that are found in the kitchen, bathroom, garage, and workshed can be hazardous and must be disposed of properly.

Choose products with labels that say:

Non-Toxic - Touching, breathing, or accidentally drinking the product will not kill you (although you may get sick).

Biodegradable - Natural bacteria in the environment will convert the product into harmless chemicals.

Contains No Hazardous Ingredients - This phrase usually means that the product does not contain more than 1% of any single hazardous chemical or 0.1% of any single carcinogen.

Other phrases that may help identify safer products include:

- Free of chlorine
- Water based
- No dye or perfume
- Citrus based

Be aware that phrases like “eco-friendly,” “green,” and “environmentally preferable” can be misleading.

Choose products with label statements such as: “non-toxic;” “non-carcinogenic;” “non- petroleum-based;” “free of ammonia;” “phosphates;” “dye or perfume;” “readily biodegradable;” “non-fuming” and “recyclable container.”



If you select hazardous products over safer alternatives, you should use these products with extreme care, which means that you should wear gloves and goggles, keep children and pets away, and be sure that you have a good supply of fresh air.

Prior to each use, review the steps to follow if you have an accident, spill or exposure.

Where possible, avoid products having labels that say any of the following:

Signal Words: Look for the label signal word (**Caution, Warning, Danger or Poison**). Choose products labeled “Caution” over “Warning;” avoid products labeled “Danger” or “Poison.”

Definitions:

Poison, Danger or Highly Toxic – Swallowing 1 teaspoon or less can kill a person.

Warning or Very Toxic – Swallowing 1 teaspoon to 1 tablespoon can kill a person.

Caution or Toxic – Swallowing an ounce to a pint can kill a person.

Corrosive or Caustic – Contains chemicals that can blind you or burn your skin.

Flammable or Combustible – The product will burn easily, and may give off vapors that can ignite.

Explosive – The product or container could explode if mishandled.

Volatile or Contains VOCs – Contains volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) that evaporate and cause air pollution and potential health effects.

Proposition 65 (Prop. 65) – Product contains chemicals that the State of California has determined will cause cancer or reproductive harm.

Provide Adequate Ventilation – Lots of fresh air is needed to keep you from breathing harmful amounts of the product or to prevent explosion.

Contains Propane or Contents Under Pressure – These are aerosol containers, which cost taxpayers more to dispose of and have more risk than do the same products that are packaged in pump spray bottles.

Other tips that a product is toxic include:

- Harmful or fatal if swallowed
- Instructions that call for use of safety equipment
- Warnings of environmental hazards (like toxic to bees, birds, and fish)



Household products that are hazardous are required to provide specific signal words – the product labels above showcase some samples of product manufacturers use of signal words.

Safer Solutions for Your Home



Toilet Bowl Cleaners, Drain Openers, and Oven Cleaners

Hazard

Toilet Bowl Cleaners, Drain Openers, and Oven Cleaners are among the most dangerous household products. They often contain acids or bases that can blind you in seconds, or kill you if swallowed. The products corrode pipes and fixtures, leading to expensive plumbing repairs.

Safe Solutions

Toilet Bowl Cleaners – Detergent-type products work well for routine toilet cleaning. Acids are only needed if you have to remove hard water deposits or rust stains. If that is your situation, consider using a cleaner that contains citric acid, or try using a pumice stone occasionally (Note: heavy use of pumice can abrade the toilet's finish).



Drain Openers – The best approach is to prevent blockages from occurring by placing cleanable screens over each drain opening, and by adding an enzyme or bacteria powder to the drains once a month. Slow-running drains can be treated with enzyme-based drain openers.

For completely blocked drains, use a wire “snake,” disassemble and clean the trap, or carefully pour boiling hot water from a tea kettle down the clogged drain. Don’t try any of these remedies if you’ve already used a chemical drain opener on the clog and the drain is still stopped up—in that case, call a plumber for assistance.



Oven Cleaners – You can avoid the need for dangerous oven cleaners by placing pans or aluminum foil in the base of your oven to catch drips. If grease or smoke deposits do form in the oven, take a safer approach to removing them. Use a mild degreasing product, such as one containing d-limonene or a plant-based solvent. Milder products may take longer to work effectively, so plan your cleaning job accordingly.

Glass Cleaners

Hazard

Glass cleaners often contain toxic ingredients that can easily be absorbed through your skin or inhaled. One common ingredient—butoxyethanol (also called ethylene glycol butyl ether)—can harm your blood, liver, and kidneys, and can poison an unborn child. Since most of the cleaner evaporates from the glass or from your cleaning cloth, using these products can pollute the air in your home.

Safe Solution

Safer glass cleaners will be labeled “vinegar-based” or “low-ammonia” cleaners.



There are many effective household products on the market that are much safer than their hazardous competitors.

Pesticides

Hazard

Pesticides, including insecticides, herbicides and disinfectants, are poisons. Besides killing bugs and weeds, they may also poison children or pets, irritate eyes or skin, cause cancer, or kill birds and fish.

Safer Solution

Traps, baits, physical barriers, soaps and oils, biological controls (“good” bugs that eat “bad” bugs), and good housekeeping and gardening practices are the safest ways to control pests. It is impossible to keep all pests away from our homes and yards—but there are convenient ways to keep the pests from annoying us or interfering with our lives.

Soapy water cleans up many insects. Try using it in a spray bottle, on a sponge, or as a bath for a bug-infested plant.

Controlling ants:

Prevent access - Caulk cracks where ants are entering the house. Weather strip doors and windows (this will save energy too). When ants appear, follow their trails inside or outside your home and seal off entry points using tape, putty, or caulk.

Don't feed the pests - Store food in containers with tight-fitting lids or in the refrigerator. Put pet food dishes in a larger dish of soapy water. Empty trash each night.

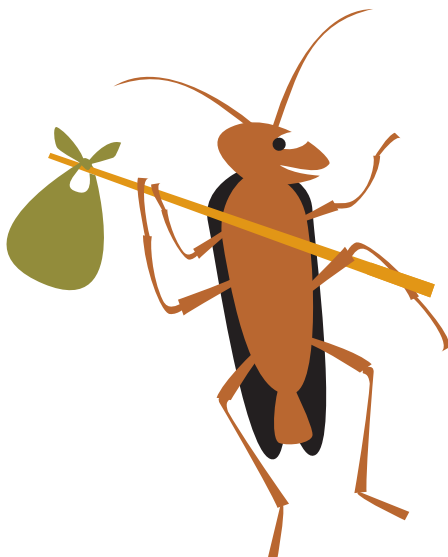
Clean up the ants inside - Wipe up ant trails with soapy water. Vacuuming ants works well too.

Use baits to wipe out the nest - The ants in your home represent just the tip of the iceberg. Use baits containing boric acid, borax, sulfuramid, avermectin, abamectin, or hydramethylnon to kill the nest and prevent recurring problems.



Controlling cockroaches:

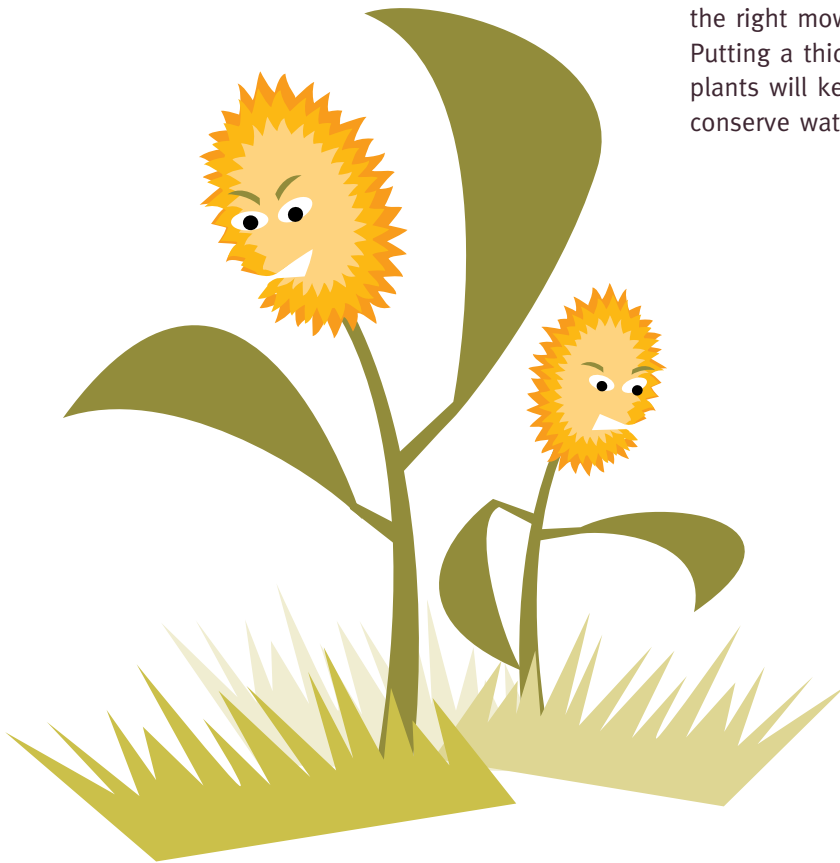
Follow the tips above for ants, selecting cockroach baits with boric acid, abamectin, or hydramethylnon. Try sticky traps for small infestations. For larger invasions, follow precautions on the product labels, use insecticidal dusts like diatomaceous earth (don't use the pool filter product) or boric acid in wall voids, under large appliances, and in cracks and crevices before you seal them.



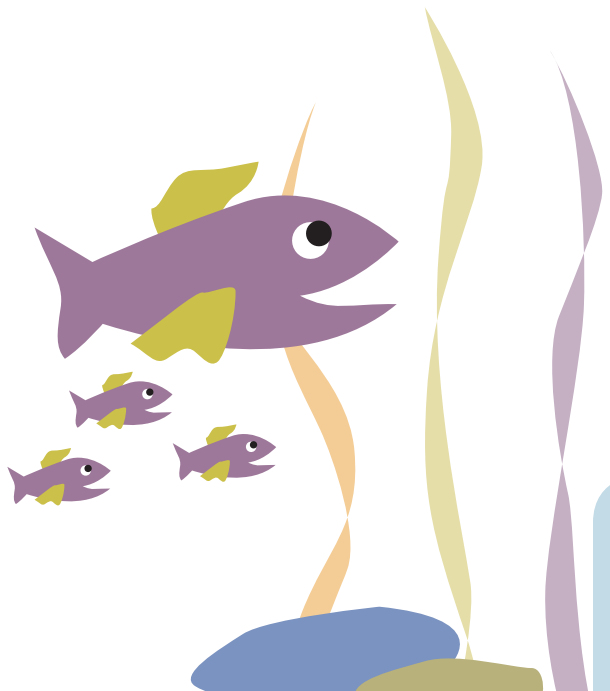
Controlling dandelions and other broadleaf weeds:

Skip the “weed and feed” products and try pulling the weeds, root and all. A weed puller (which costs only a few dollars) makes this job easier. If weeding isn’t your style, there are many other low-toxicity weed control products at your nursery.

Watering deeply and infrequently and using slow-release fertilizers will make your yard an unfriendly place for weeds. Keeping grass taller will shade out weeds. (Check with your nursery to find out the right mowing height for your grass.) Putting a thick layer of mulch around your plants will keep weeds from growing and conserve water.



Old releases of pesticides like DDT still make some fish risky to eat—In the past much of this came from industrial sources, but today most of it enters the waters from polluted urban runoff from our yards and gardens.



5 Simple Steps to Protect Your Family's Health and the Environment



1) Buy only latex paint and don't buy more than you need.

Oil-based paint causes air pollution. New latex paints provide equal quality and because they are water-based, cleanup is easy. Look for “Low-VOC” paints, which are the least polluting. Remember to purchase paint hardener so that you can easily dispose of any old or leftover latex paint. Paint is the biggest household hazardous waste stream—so buy only what you need.



2) Light your barbeque with an electric or chimney starter.

Charcoal lighter fluid causes air pollution and it is very flammable. Both of these alternatives are cheaper, and make lighting a fire easier and more reliable—and you'll never run out of lighter fluid. Bring your leftover fluid to the Household Hazardous Waste Center.



3) Replace your mercury thermometers.

Buy a new non-mercury thermometer for the medicine cabinet. Replace your mercury thermostat with an electronic programmable one—you'll save on heating and cooling costs too! Even a few drops from a broken thermometer or thermostat can raise mercury air concentrations in a room to unsafe levels. Bring any mercury-containing items you have to the Household Hazardous Waste Center. Don't wait for them to break!



4) Buy (or ask your mechanic to use) re-refined oil and safer propylene glycol antifreeze.

To ensure that you're getting high-quality re-refined oil, look for the API Certification seal.



5) Buy rechargeable batteries.

Start replacing your battery-powered electronics with products that have integrated rechargeable batteries. When you're done with any battery, bring it to the Household Hazardous Waste Center. Note: batteries for emergency flashlights and radios should be alkaline batteries.

Handling Hazardous Products

If you use hazardous products, here are things you should do to minimize accidents and poisonings.

- **Read the label *before you open the container.*** Be sure to follow the directions for how to mix and use the product.
- **Prepare for accidents.** Think for a moment about what you would do if something went wrong, especially if you have a spill, or if you splash any of the product on yourself (see the Spills section on page 19 and the Accidents section on page 20). It's a good idea to have a back-up person around to help you if you get into trouble while using a product that is labeled "Warning," "Danger," or "Poison."
- **Follow the instructions** on what to wear. Gloves, goggles, and long sleeves can help avoid dangerous exposures.
- **Don't eat, drink, or smoke** while handling hazardous products.
- **NEVER mix products together!** Mixing ordinary chemicals could form a toxic gas or cause an explosion.
- **Make sure there's plenty of fresh air.** Work outdoors if possible, especially with paints and solvents. If indoors, open windows to maximize ventilation.
- **Keep products in their original containers.** It is especially important not to pour them into a food container (like a mayonnaise jar) that children might accidentally associate with food. If it is necessary to use non-original container, label that container properly; contents, hazards.
- **Always wash up afterwards** with soap and water.
- **Store products out of reach** of children and pets.

If you are interrupted for any reason (like to answer the telephone or the door) when handling hazardous products and medications, be sure to take pets and children with you. When using hazardous products, keep kids and pets away, do only one thing at a time, and don't leave the area until the product is safely put away. Do not leave containers of hazardous products unattended when children and pets are around.

Take extra care with the following products:

- Cleaning products that can cause burns: oven cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, drain cleaners, and rust removers.
- Solvents like paint thinners, strippers, furniture refinishing solutions, lighter fluid, gasoline, kerosene, and turpentine.
- Any product meant to kill insects, animals, or plants.
- Medicines (including aspirin and over-the-counter medications, which are the most common cause of poisoning deaths).
- Products a child or pet might drink, like antifreeze and windshield wiper solution.

Always follow the directions on the label except for directions that say to put the product in the trash or to dump it down a drain. Instead, bring the product to the Household Hazardous Waste Center for recycling or proper disposal.

Safe Storage for Hazardous Products

Safe Storage

Store hazardous products in a dry location away from heat sources, food, and medications and out of the reach of children and pets. Always store products in their original containers—having the safety closure and the product label is very important for your safety. If you have flammable and corrosive products, store them in separate places (they are not compatible).

Consider hurricane safety for your household chemical products.

Two things you can do to keep your family safe in the event of an hurricane:

- Store products in “secondary containment”—a solid plastic or metal container like a storage box, dish pan, or cleaning caddy. That way, if a product container falls over, the chemicals will stay in one place.
- Put child safety locks on cabinet doors keeping your products on the shelves and away from your family and pets.

Think realistically about whether you plan to use your hazardous products again soon. Why not drop them off at the County’s Household Hazardous Waste Center?

Cabinets used for storing common household hazardous products are attractive to curious young children. Please make sure you secure these places with childproof accessories.



Safe Disposal for Hazardous Product Waste

You can dispose of hazardous household products safely. Proper disposal keeps these hazards away from you, your family, and your pets, keeps the water and beaches healthy, and is safer for County and City workers.

The County provides **free safe disposal** of hazardous household products for St. Lucie County residents. Please use this free service to dispose of all your hazardous household products, including any chemical product that has an unreadable label.

What you can put in the trash:

- Empty containers – except aerosol cans.
Take the lid off before putting the container in the trash.
(Aerosol cans often contain residual propellant and may ignite).
- Dry latex paint. Leave lid off so refuse collectors will know what is being disposed of.



Drains, Gutters, and Trash Cans are not safe disposal alternatives!

- Every storm or outdoor drain in St. Lucie County leads to water. Everything in gutters and storm drains flows straight to the beach—so don't let anything but rain get into the storm drain!
- Indoor drains flow to a sewage treatment plant, which isn't designed to treat hazardous chemicals. That means untreated hazardous chemicals flow into the water along with the treated wastewater.
- Hazardous chemicals in trash can leak or react and cause fires or release toxic fumes.
- Many sanitation workers have been injured by hazards in trash. In addition, once the trash reaches the landfill, there is a risk that hazardous chemicals will leak into groundwater, a major source of drinking water in Florida.

Disposing of hazardous products in a drain or in the trash is not only unsafe—it's illegal!



There is no reason to keep dangerous waste products like old paint cans around the house when there is a safe, convenient and cost effective (FREE) disposal alternative right here in our county.

What residents say about the Household Hazardous Waste Center:

"Fast!"

"I like the drive-thru service."

"Quick, efficient, courteous."

The Household Hazardous Waste Center

Household Hazardous Waste Center

The Center is a free service to St. Lucie County residents. Proof of residency may be required.

State and federal law prohibits the transport of more than five (5) gallons or one hundred (100) pounds of household hazardous waste. Amounts in excess of this will not be accepted. Explosive materials or any radioactive, infectious or extremely hazardous wastes will not be accepted. This collection center is for household hazardous waste only!



For the Safety of Our Workers...

- Keep the waste in its original container.
- Make sure the containers are sound, upright and not leaking. If a container is leaking, place entire container into a larger container of the same material (plastic into plastic, metal into metal).
- All participants must stay in their vehicle and wait for assistance
- Do not transport waste in plastic bags.

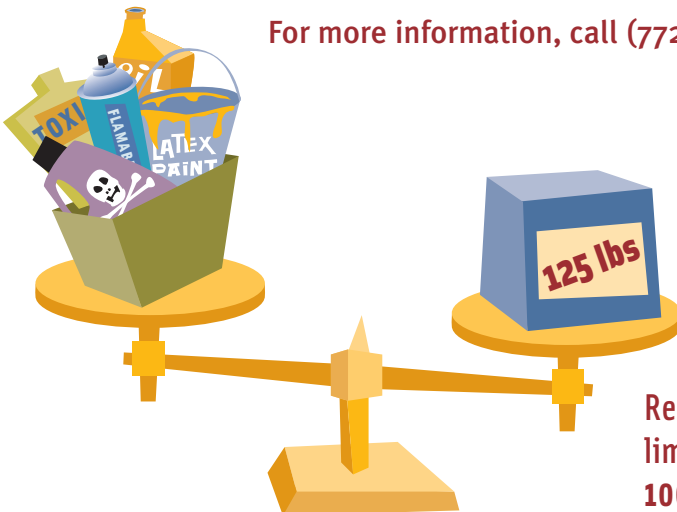
Household Hazardous Waste Center

6120 Glades Cut-Off Road, Ft. Pierce, Florida 34981

Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (except holidays).

For more information, call (772) 462-1768



Remember Florida state law limits you to **5 gallons** or **100 pounds** maximum per visit. Got more? Make 2 trips or bring 2 cars.

Do you have waste from your business? The county can help you with safe, legal disposal, for a nominal fee. Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQG) only. Call (772) 462-1768 for information.

What You Can Bring to the Household Hazardous Waste Center

General Home Use

Abrasive cleaners
Adhesives
Aerosol spray cans
Air fresheners
Ammonia and bleach
Batteries (all types)
Compact fluorescent bulbs
Disinfectants
Drain cleaners
Fluorescent light bulbs
Furniture polish
Kerosene
Lighter fluid
Liquid cleaners
Mercury thermometers
Mercury thermostats
Metal polishes
Mothballs
Nail polish remover
Oven cleaners
Photo processing chemicals
Propane
Rug & upholstery cleaner
Rust remover
Scouring powder
Shoe polish
Spot removers
Toilet bowl cleaners

Automotive Products

Antifreeze
Batteries
Brake and engine cleaners
Degreasers
Fuels (gasoline/kerosene/diesel)
Motor oil and oil filters
Transmission fluid
Windshield washer solution

Garden Products

Charcoal lighter fluid
Fertilizers
Herbicides
Pesticides
Pet care products
Pool chemicals
Weed n' Feed

Painting & Finishing Products

Liquid latex paint
Oil-based paint
Solvents/thinners
Stains/varnishes
Strippers
Wood preservatives

*Every household generates more than 20 pounds
of hazardous waste each year. People often store as much
as 100 pounds of hazardous waste in their homes.*

What You Can Bring to the Household Hazardous Waste Center

Some products we'd really like you to get out of your home and bring to the Household Hazardous Waste Center:

- Old pesticides like DDT, chlordane, and lindane
- Head lice shampoo and scabies lotion
- Brake and engine cleaners
- Mercury thermometers
- Mercury thermostats
- Pesticides containing diazinon, chlorpyrifos (dursban), or clopyralid



Most of these products are so dangerous that they've been banned! If you have any of these products please inform the HHW staff immediately.



Used Motor Oil & Oil Filter Recycling

There are many locations in St. Lucie County to recycle your used oil and oil filters (including the Household Hazardous Waste Center).

Most auto parts stores offer used oil recycling.

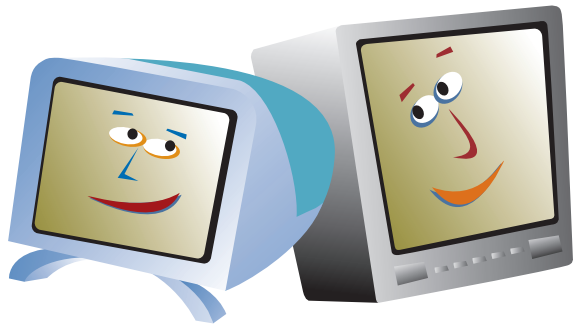
What to do with Electronic Waste

Electronic Waste

A typical television set or computer monitor contains 5 to 7 pounds of lead (a toxic metal). The lead is safely encased until the screen is broken. All electronics contain toxic metals that could pose hazards to people, fish, or drinking water quality. Electronic waste can be taken for FREE to the

St. Lucie County Household

Hazardous Waste Facility, Located at: 6120 Glades Cut-Off Road, Ft. Pierce, FL 34981 open Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.



Call (772) 462-1768 for more information.

In the Event of a Spill or Leak

If anyone is hurt, or if the spill is large and you cannot safely clean it up, call 911 immediately!

In the event of a spill or leak:

- **Keep children and pets away.**
- **Extinguish Flames.** Extinguish any open flame or heat source.
- **Keep the area well ventilated** (open windows).
- **Read the product label** for information on how to handle a spill.
- **Put on the recommended safety gear.** You will probably need to wear gloves, goggles, and long sleeves and pants.
- **Stop the product from spreading** by covering the spill with absorbent material (kitty litter, sand, disposable diapers, soil). Don't vacuum up a spill or try to wash it down any drain.
- **Sweep and scoop the absorbent into a container** with a lid or into a strong plastic bag. Clean the area with soap and rags (put used rags into the container as well). Be careful not to wash hazardous materials into the street gutter.
- **Label the container** with the product name, chemical name, and hazard category (flammable, corrosive, etc.) All this information should be available on the product's label.
- **Dispose of the container as hazardous waste** at the county's Household Hazardous Waste Center. See the Disposal section (Page 15).

Mercury and Fluorescent Bulbs

Cleaning up liquid mercury or a broken fluorescent bulb requires special methods that, if not followed, could contaminate your home or endanger your family—**Call 911 for assistance.**

Prepare yourself in advance for spills and splashes:

- Have cleanup supplies nearby, and know how to use them.
- Call for help sooner rather than later.
- Any towels, rags, or sponges that you use to cleanup a hazardous product become contaminated and must themselves be disposed of as hazardous wastes.

Accidental Exposure

For an immediate medical emergency call 911.

Call the Poison Center at (800) 222-1222. *Have the container with you when you make the call to help in the identification.* The first aid remedies on product labels can be incorrect especially on older products so be sure to call the Poison Center for advice. The following are general first aid recommendations. If a doctor or the Poison Center recommend other actions, follow their advice.

EYES

- Rinse eye immediately and remove contact lenses, if any.
- Flush eye with water for 15 minutes.
- Water should be lukewarm and should run across the contaminated eye.
- Blink contaminated eye while flushing and do not force the eyelid open.

SWALLOWED

- Call 911 immediately if victim has difficulty breathing or is unconscious.
- Call the Poison Center immediately or a doctor for instructions.
- If substance swallowed is a medication **do not** take anything by mouth unless instructed by a medical professional.
- Keep Syrup of Ipecac on hand, and use if a doctor or the Poison Center advises.

INHALED

- Immediately move to fresh air, open doors and windows.
- Call Poison Center or emergency 911 if needed.

SKIN

- Remove contaminated clothing and flood the skin with water for 10 minutes. Then wash skin gently with soap and water and rinse.
- Separate contaminated clothing from other laundry before washing.

Think about what you'd do in the event of an accident before you use a hazardous product!

Resources

Local environmental information:

St. Lucie County Extension: (772) 462-1660 or www.stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu

St. Lucie County Solid Waste Department: (772) 462-1768 or www.co.st-lucie.fl.us

Household hazardous waste disposal:

St. Lucie County Solid Waste Department: (772) 462-1768 or www.co.st-lucie.fl.us

Indoor drains (sewer):

St. Lucie County Utility Department: (772) 462-1150 or www.co.st-lucie.fl.us/utilities

City of Port St. Lucie County Utility System Department: (772) 871-7300 or www.cityofpls.com/utilities

Fort Pierce Utilities Authority: (772) 462-1600 or www.fpua.com

Stormwater:

St. Lucie County - Illicit Discharge Hotline: (772) 462-1668

City of Port St. Lucie - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Hotline: (772) 344-4319

South Florida Water Management District: (800) 432-2045 or www.fpua.com

Pest management:

St. Lucie County Extension: (772) 462-1660 or www.stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu

The Humane Society of Saint Lucie County: (772) 461-0687 www.hsslc.com

Asbestos information:

American Lung Association (800) LUNG-USA or (323) 935-5864 or www.lungusa.org/air.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (800) 963-9424 or www.osha.gov

Other Links:

St. Lucie County Health Department: (772) 462-3800 or www.stluciecountyhealth.com

St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office: (772) 462-7300 or www.stluciesheriff.com

St. Lucie County Fire District: (772) 621-3400 or www.slcfcd.com

Waste-Pro: (772) 595-9390 or www.wasteprousa.com

Emergency Contacts

Medical Emergencies - 911

Health Hazards Poison Center - (800) 222-1222

Fire District - (772) 621-3400

For more information contact **772-462-1768**
or visit **www.co.st-lucie.fl.us**

St. Lucie County Solid Waste Management Department
6120 Glades Cut-off Road, Fort Pierce, Florida 34982-5652

